

REMARKS

Applicants hereby elect **Group I, namely Claims 52, 55-60, 74-75, 78-82**, drawn to isolated stem cells or stem cell lines carrying a disease-causing mutation and methods of identifying an agent suitable for treating a disorder utilizing a stem cell line.

Species:

SEQ ID NO:34 (510del28 in SEQ ID NO:34) associated with van Waardenburg syndrome as in claims 57 and 81.

Applicants reserve the right to file, at a later date, additional divisional applications claiming priority from the present application which are directed to the non-elected Groups.

In addition, prior to Examination claims 52, 58, 74 and 75 have been amended and Claims 53, 54, 76 and 77 have been cancelled.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 25, 2008